

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An implant comprising:
 - a tubular metal stent defining a lumen centered on a central longitudinal axis, the stent being radially expansible from a radially compact delivery configuration to a radially larger deployed configuration, and
 - a plurality of electrically-conductive closed loops comprising struts forming an apertured wall of the stent, said loops being helically wound around the longitudinal axis an integral whole number of turns, each of said loops being formed from strut loop portions providing electrically-conductive current pathways within which eddy currents are liable to be induced when subjected to a time-dependent external magnetic field, each of said loops including a first current pathway and a second current pathway wherein said first current pathway and said second current pathway are arranged such that, regardless of the direction of said external magnetic field, the direction of the eddy current that would be induced by said field in said second current pathway is the reverse of the direction of the eddy current that would simultaneously be induced by said field in said first current pathway, thereby to prevent flow of eddy currents in each of said loops, thereby mitigating a Faraday Cage effect and rendering the lumen visible to MRI.

2. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 1, wherein ~~each of said loops~~ has the strut loop portions form a plurality of lobes, each lobe circumferentially separated from an equal area counterpart lobe by 180 degrees ~~formed as a first lobe and as a second lobe of a figure of eight, further comprising a cross over point between said first lobe and said second lobe.~~

3. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 1 [[2]], further comprising an electrically-insulating link joint between adjacent loops ~~said two loop portions at said cross-over point.~~

4-5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 1, wherein ~~each of said loops wraps around an~~ the turns of the loops are wound around the longitudinal axis in the form of a spiral with a constant pitch ~~an integral whole number of turns.~~

7. (Original) The implant as claimed in claim 6, the integral whole number of turns being at least three.

8-10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 1, wherein the strut loop portions correspond to struts that are joined end-to-end to each other and can deploy in use to form a zig-zag pattern.

12-14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 3 [[13]], wherein ~~each~~ the electrically-insulating link is a mechanical coupling with a first cooperating link portion and a second cooperating link portion.

16. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 15, wherein the first and second cooperating link portions can move relative to each other.

17. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 16, wherein the first and second cooperating link portions are constituted as a hook portion and an eye to receive the hook portion.

18. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 15, including a layer of bonding material between the first and second cooperating link portions.

19. (Original) The implant according to claim 18, wherein the bonding material is ceramic.

20. (Original) The implant according to claim 18, wherein the bonding material is an adhesive composition.

21. (Original) The implant according to claim 15, wherein the mechanical coupling comprises interlocking fingers.

22. (Original) The implant according to claim 15, wherein the mechanical coupling comprises mechanically-engaging surfaces in combination with at least one restraining strap overlying the engaging surfaces.

23. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 3 [[13]], wherein ~~each~~ the electrically-insulating link includes a molded connector piece.

24. (Currently amended) The implant according to claim 3 [[13]], wherein ~~each~~ the electrically-insulating link includes a portion that is locally thinned with respect to the thickness of the wall of the implant.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Original) The implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant is made of nickel-titanium shape memory alloy.

27. (Original) The implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant is made of stainless steel.

28-36. (Canceled).